# The Arlington Advocate

50 CENTS, VOL. 120, NO. 29

SERVING THE RESIDENTS OF ARLINGTON SINCE 1872

THURSDAY, July 16, 1992

#### RECYCLING ROUTE THIS WEEK



# Mail stolen from boxes in town

Fifteen bags of mail, including several bags from Arlington, were recovered last week following the looting of a number of private drop-off boxes in Arlington, along with Somerville and Medford, postal officials said

Mail was reported stolen Thursday, July 9 from boxes in Arlington at Cleveland Street, Marion Road, Marion Circle, and an apartment complex on Mass. Avenue, Arlington branch Post Master Jim Lawlor said.

Postal investigator Dennis Kelliher said 15 bags of mail were retrieved at the Charlestown Navy Shipyard by postal workers and a State Police diving team between Thursday and Friday last week.

"You're talking a lot of mail, and all of it's wet," said Kelliher, who helped retrieve some of the mail at the shipyard. "But it definitely will get back to the people."

The thefts in Arlington, Medford and Somerville are part of a continuing postal investigation involving mail thefts in the Greater Metropolitan Boston area during the past several months, Kelliher said.

According to Kelliher, similar thefts occurred earlier this week in Belmont, Cambridge and Boston, and he said three men were arrested Tuesday in the South End of Boston after attempting to steal mail from a box there. But he was uncertain if there was a connection between the Arlington thefts and the other incidents.

Officials suspect the thefts are related to credit card companies mailing out cards to their customers.

—By E.H. Stockstill

#### **News**

■ The town is working on helping people, organizations, and businesses understand and comply with the new Americans with Disabilities Act, which went into effect on Jan. 26. For more information on the act, see page 2A.

#### **SPORTS**



ADVOCATE PHOTO BY CHERYL A. MILLER

Jayne King of the Nicola Team pitches to a batter in the Arlington Women's League softball action. For more on the playoffs and other sports action, see page 1B.

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Harte-Hanks
Community Newspapers

# SYMMES LOOKS AHEAD



ADVOCATE FILE PHOTO

Symmes Hospital officials will discuss formal linkage with Lahey Clinic in Burlington over the next three months.

# Plans with Lahey discussed

Symmes Hospital in Arlington will be exploring a possible linkage with Lahey Clinic in Burlington, the two medical facilities announced this week.

"Over the next three months, representatives from both institutions will discuss various options for working together to meet the needs of patients in their respective communities," said a Symmes release.

The two hospitals offered no specific areas, arrangements or programs that might be linked, but said the discussions would take a look at patients' needs in the two communities.

Arlington's Symmes Hospital is currently undergoing a reorganization following the hospital's emergence from bankruptcy.

Since the bankruptcy problems two years ago, Symmes Hospital has posted profitable years. Although Symmes recovered, several area hospitals have changed or closed. Symmes' sister hospital, Choate, in Woburn closed as a hospital and Sancta Maria Hospital in Cambridge no longer offers emergency room services.

"We have developed a great deal of mutual respect during our preliminary meetings and are undertaking these talks with great optimism," Bruce W. Steinhauser, M.D. chief executive officer of Lahey Clinic, said in a release. "We hope that at the end of this three-month discussion period, we will come up with a plan that will strengthen both Symmes Hospital and the Lahey Clinic."

Symmes President David E. Speltz said: "Our discussions with the Lahey Clinic promise much for our communities.

According to a company release, the discussions between the two hospitals reflects a growing trend among health care providers to form partnerships in order to deliver a broader range of services to patients in their communities. This trend is partially the result of the growth of the managed care industry over the past five years and the need to contain health care costs.

Lahey clinic is a 272-bed acute care hospital and serves more than 2,000 outpatients a day. Symmes Hospital has been operating in Arlington since 1902 and has a 24-hour emergency room.

# Board looks at executive job

Algonquin work along Route 2

Arlington's Board of Selectmen will decide on July 27 how they will proceed in filling the position of executive secretary.

This department head works directly for the five-member part-time board. The current executive secretary Frederick E. Pitcher announced his retirement, effective on July 31,

after 21 years in the position.

While the five members appeared to offer similar solutions on the issue, at a meeting Monday selectmen could not agree on an plan of action. They will discuss the issue again at

their next meeting, July 27.

Arlington has had a full-time executive secretary for all the years it

ecutive secretary for all the years it has also had a town manager as a chief executive. THe town is the only municipality in the state to have both.

Among the issues to be looked at by the board are: the job description for the position, how to fill it, whether to fill it, and what changes could be made to how the office is run.

If you have driven along Route 2 or

the Alewife Brook Parkway, by now

you are no doubt familiar with the

traffic jams caused by excavation

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The work is done by Algonquin Gas

Transmission Company of Brighton.

According to James Grasso of Algon-

The first phase is retesting all the

gas pipe lines that are underneath the

road. Natural gas is evacuated - or

pumped out - from various sections

of the pipe line at night and then the

pipes are filled with water. At the

same time, the pressure is increased

to double the normal pressure, to

identify corrosion or leakage in the

pipes. After the pressure is kept up for 8 to 10 hours, the lines are refilled with gas. If there is a leak, the line is

replaced. If not, it is put back into

In the second phase, the company

is using this construction period to in-

crease the supply of gas in the North-

quin, the work has two phases.

work is going to continue only until

By Alin Kocharians

there.

October.

service.

"I've done a 180 on this job," said Selectman Charles Lyons. "And I now don't know that we need to fill it. But we do need to have the daily issues of the town addressed."

Lyons had suggested giving the daily operation of the office to Town Manager Donald R. Marquis. However other board members rejected the idea

Selectman Kevin Greeley offered a motion to fill the position on a temporary part-time basis. However he failed to gain enough votes to carry out the measure.

Greeley also questioned the handling of the situation by Chairman Stephen Gilligan. Last week, Gilligan "stepped in and took control of the office," the chairman told his fellow board members. Gilligan said his actions were necessary because the retiring executive secretary is out of the effice, through the end of his tenure, on vacation.

east, Grasso said. This is among one

of many of Algonquin's projects for

Grasso said the company's custom-

increasing gas pressure.

"There were rumors and innuendoes that this office was not being handled appropriately. I told the staff and others in town hall I was running things," said Gilligan.

Other board members, however, did not agree with Gilligan's actions. "Quite frankly, I think you over-

stepped your authority," said Greeley. Gilligan will oversee the day-to-

day actions of the office, although he will not work out of town hall.

Also before the board is the issue of

how the office functions. To address the role of the executive secretary, the board has asked the town's Personnel Board to review the job description of executive secretary.

"I want to know what the role of the executive secretary may be, this is information I am very interested in," said Selectman Kathleen Dias. She added the board might also look at "downsizing" its operations.

# New rates for water bill eyed

By Carol Beggy ADVOCATE STAFF WRITER

Arlington may soon have a new water rate structure that is expected to give relief to many small households and promote water conservation.

Under a plan presented by the town's Department of Public Works (DPW) and supported by a Board of Selectmen's subcommittee, the town would establish a two-tiered rate system for fiscal 1994.

The system would have those who use under 200 cubic feet of water (ccf) year would pay a rate of \$1.60 per unit. Those using more than 200 ccf would pay \$2.35 per unit. Under the plan, the town would also establish a flat customer charge of \$37.10 annually for billing and office costs.

Also under discussion is the implementation of quarterly billing for July 1993, rather than the current twice yearly system.

The Board of Selectmen heard a report Monday from the DPW and a consultant hired to review the town's rate structure. Currently Arlington has one rate for all users with a fixed minimum bill.

The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), of which Arlington is a member, estimates the average annual usage of a family of four at 120 ccfs or 90,000 gallons of water annually. The cutoff level for the

new system would be 200 ccfs or 150,000 gallons of water annually.

Under the current billing system, someone using 20 ccfs of water would still have to the minimum bill of \$191. If the two-tier system were implemented the same annual cost would be \$138.

For the average family using 120 ccfs the current year's bill would be \$678. Under the new system it would be \$644, under the calculations provided by KPMG-Peat Marwick, the town's consultants.

Ninety percent of the town's water users fall under the 200 ccfs limit. "What we have is that 90 percent of the accounts in town only use 60 percent of the water," said Gary J. Tunnecliffe, project manager for KPMG.

In the new plan, the town would still bill users for the total cost of buying water and sewer service from the MWRA and there would be a minimum charge to cover local costs.

Although the selectmen appeared to support the new plan a vote on the measure was tabled until July 27 after Selectman Frank Hurd questioned whether two-family houses could save money.

"I'm voting against this because I just don't know how this is going to impact the buildings with more than one unit," said Hurd.

WATER, See page 10A

# Town moved out of 8th district

Arlington in Markey's district

By Carol Beggy and Tim Monaghan HARTE-HANKS STAFF

Arlington will now be part of U.S. Rep. Edward Markey's 7th Congressional, leaving U.S. Rep. Joseph Kennedy's district.

Under a state redistricting plan state that emerged from the Legislature last week, approved by Gov. William Weld on Thursday, Kennedy loses Waltham and Arlington, while picking up Chelsea and sections of Jamaica Plain, Dorchester, Roxbury and Mattapan.

The newly drawn congressional map of Massachusetts was required because of population losses in the 1990 Census forced Massachusetts to redraw its districts from 11 to 10.

"I am truly honored and privileged to be representing the people from the additional areas of the city of Boston and the city of Chelsea that have been added to my congressional district," Kennedy said in a brief press statement after the redistricting plan was announced. "I will work diligently over the coming months to earn their support. I look forward to fighting on their behalf in the 103rd Congress."

Kennedy offered no other comment on the plan.

Through a spokesman Congressman Markey said this week: "He is very pleased with the district and is very pleased with the opportunity to serve Arlington." Markey has made no formal statement on the new district.

Markey has no Democratic challengers in his race this year.

The redrawing of district boundaries means that the 8th Congressional District now includes all of Belmont, Cambridge, Chelsea, Somerville and Watertown; and 13 Boston wards or parts of wards.

It also increases the minority population of the district to 38.7 percent, a fact that political analysts see as an advantage for Kennedy.

Other Democratic incumbents see less of an advantage in the new political map, and are focusing their criticism on Gov. Weld.

"Bill Weld retired the Elbridge Gerry trophy," U.S. Rep. Chester Atkins, D-Mass., told Associated Press reporters, referring to the 19thcentury Massachusetts governor whose district map-making added the word "gerrymandering" to the English language.

Atkins, whose 5th District, the "Merrimack Valley" seat, Weld made his top priority, insisted the remapping wouldn't hurt his reelection chances. But he blasted Republican Weld for "blackmailing" Democratic leaders in the Legislature into drawing a map to favor GOP candidates

"The voters were left entirely out of the equation," said Atkins. "He's really hurt the state and the concept of compact and contiguous districts. People talk about the dysfunction of government, and this is a classic example of how and why people are so mad at government."

However, AP reported Lt. Gov.

Paul Cellucci as saying that Democrats' concern over giving U.S. Rep. Joseph Moakley of South Boston the district he wanted "forced other convolutions on the region."

Cellucci said concern for Moakley forced what he called a "Bulgermandered" map, using Senate President William Bulger's name to create a new twist on the term

CONGRESS, See page 3A

# Local districts stay at 21

Arlington will retain 21 local precincts under a plan voted by the Board of Selectmen Monday.

The because of changes in the 1990 census the board had considered changing to 12 precincts from the current 21. Selectmen estimated the change could have saved an estimated \$8,000 an election.

Arlington's population dropped overall from the last federal census by about 3,000 residents.

Despite the projected cost savings, however, the local redistricting plan drew the ire of Town Meeting members — those most immediately impacted by the change — because the plan had not been discussed publicly.

Following a public hearing held more than a month ago — while Town Meeting was still in session — selectmen decided to keep the 21 precincts. The vote Monday keeps the number

of precincts and the distribution of Town Meeting members intact. There will be 12 Town Meeting members elected from each precinct. Although the numbers will remain the same, the actual border lines of

some of the precincts will be redrawn to reflect changes in the population in areas of town.

The final lines will be drawn by the town's Department of Planning and

The final lines will be drawn by the town's Department of Planning and Community Development, and will be used for the next town election in the spring of 1993.

Areas with the greatest change are in the center of town with the Heights and East Arlington maintaining population. New lines will drawn for all of the precincts were population changed. The precincts next to those will population changes may also have to be altered slightly.

RAS, See page 14A really hur of compa

ADVOCATE PHOTO BY TIM MONAGHAN

Gas, the Town of Middleborough and

Southern Connecticut Gas. Belmont

and Arlington subscribe to Boston

ers include Boston Gas, Central Gas and Electric, Yankee Gas, Fall River GAS, See page 14A

Work is done by the Algonquin Gas Co. on the gasline along Route 2 this

# **INSIDE ARLINGTON**

#### RELIGIOUS NEWS

#### **Ecumenical AIDS** healing service planned for July 29

A service of prayer, music, and healing for all affected by the AIDS crisis will be offered at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 929 Concord Turnpike, Arlington, on Wednesday, July 29, at 7:30 p.m. Clergy and lay persons from nearby churches and a variety of denominations will take part in the laying on of hands to express God's healing power, with anointing for those who wish it.

Everyone is invited, especially people with AIDS or HIV-related illness, their families, friends, and loved ones, and health care workers. The service will be ASL interpreted and will include a free will offering and a reception. The church is accessible by wheelchair.

This service is sponsored jointly by St. Paul Lutheran Church and the Ecumenical Task Force on AIDS, Inc., and is supported by the Arlington Interfaith Association.

St. Paul is at the corner of Hillside Avenue and Rhinecliff Street in Arlington, just off Route 2. Take bus 78

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#### Vacation Bible school at church

The Cornerstone Baptist Church, 54 Brighton St., Belmont, will hold its annual Daily Vacation Bible School, Monday through Friday, July 20-24, from 10 a.m. until noon. The school will be open to all children aged two through grade eight. Children in grades one through eight will have a special "summer camp" program with crafts and games. The children will enjoy the video bible stories and singing, and each will make a handcraft to take home. Refreshments will be provided each day. Children in Belmont and Arlington can get a free ride to and from the sessions on the church van; call 489-2498. While the children are in DVBS, parents are invited to attend the morning sessions of the annual summer bible conference, which will be held at the same time. For further information call

#### The Arlington Advocate

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## LIBRARY NEWS

#### **Construction Fair** invitation issued

Children in grades Kindergarten through 6 are invited to a Construction Fair to be held tomorrow morning, July 17, in the Robbins Memorial Garden. Here is your first chance to help celebrate the new library addition and to find out how such a big project is accomplished.

You will meet the architect, the clerk of the works and the general contractor for the project, as well as the library director. Each of these people will present a brief talk on his or her part in the construction project, and answer questions you may have. In addition there will be a photo display of Robbins Library history, a chance to do a bit of "construction" of your own, book lists, a free David Macaulay book for each child, and special refreshments.

The children will meet with the speakers in groups of approximately 15 and the talks will be specifically geared to each age group. Families who wish to attend as a unit should use discretion in picking which age group would be most appropriate. The schedule is as follows: 9:30 to 10:15 a.m., 5-year-olds through 1st grade; 10:15 to 11 a.m., 2nd through 4th grades; and 11 to 11:45 a.m., 5th and 6th grades.

This event is funded by the Anne A. Russell Children's Educational and Cultural Enrichment Fund. No advance registration is required.

#### **Toddler and Two** program on July 21

Children ages 15 to 36 months with an adult may stop by the Fox Library Tuesday morning, July 21, for a play time. Age appropriate toys and a

simple craft will be available from 10:30 a.m. until noon. This program will take place every other week.

#### Kid's craft fair registration

There is still time to register to sell crafts and/or goodies at the annual Kid's Craft Fair to be held on Wednesday, July 29; at the Recreation Department Rink on Summer Street. Children in grades 1 through 8 who wish to sell should register at the Fox Library Circulation Desk in person, or by calling 641-5490. They will receive a flyer with guidelines for the day. Please be prepared to give a general idea of what you plan to sell. If you need ideas, stop by the library and take home some craft books.

#### Forbes exhibits work

Campbell Forbes, a native of Glasgow, Scotland, is having his second exhibition at the Watertown Free Public Library through June 30. This collection of "Disparate Art," a reflection of how each piece of work is singularly distinctive, includes examples of watercolors, pencil drawings, and lithographs. These range from whimsical contraptions, interiors, and portraits to social commentary on the world today.

A graduate of the Massachusetts College of Art, Campbell has worked in vocational art programs with artistically talented developmentally disabled adults. In addition to this experience he brings a background in graphic design and model making.

For more information about the artwork you can contact Forbes at

#### Resume workshop to be held

The Watertown Public Library will present a Resume Writing Workshop on Monday, June 22, at 7:30 p.m. The workshop will be conducted by Kerry Anne Santry, associate director for the Career Planning Center at Tufts University. For more information, call 972-6431.

# Town's work on disabilities act beginning

Since the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) went into effect on Jan. 26, the town of Arlington has been active in both informing its citizens about the ADA and in working on plans for structural, policy and procedural changes to meet the requirements of the act.

Central to this effort has been the establishment of the Arlington Committee on Disability, coordinated by Arthur Johnson, director of Arlington's Department of Human Resources.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, "ADA gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities that are like those provided to individuals on the basis of race, sex, national origin and religion. It guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in employment, public accommodations, transportation, state and local government services, and telecommunications.'

The law is simply about the inclusion of all Arlington residents in its community life. Unlike Section 504 which mandated the civil rights of people with disabilities in accessing buildings, employment and services, ADA mandates that businesses (stores, restaurants, offices and transportation) examine their policies, procedures and physical environments in order to make reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities who may be currently or potentially employees, customers and clients.

The key for the private purveyor of services to the public lies in the definition of ('reasonable accommodation."

The Committee on Disability will be exploring improvements (since Arlington's work on compliance with Section 504 in the mid-1980s) and current needs in the town's public buildings, employment practices and services, and in finding ways to bring information about the ADA to all members of the Arlington community. Information has already been gathered from a number of sources, and recently Lorraine Greiff, assistant director of the Massachusetts Office on Disability, met with the committee to share more information available through that office.

In its search for accurate information about Arlington's needs, the committee is considering holding public hearings to plan for compliance with ADA. The final plan for compliance is due on Jan. 26, 1993. Members of the committee include a number of Arlington officials and citizens representing an array of services and needs.

According to committee member, Dr. Cutler, there will be a training on the ADA in Boston, July 26 to 29 at the Tremont House. This training is sponsored by the National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems under a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Justice. For further information, call the Disability Law Center in Boston at 723-8455 (Voice or TTY).

For information about the ADA, its potential effect on Arlington and the Arlington Committee on Disability, contact Arthur Johnson, director of Human Resources at 646-1000, ext.

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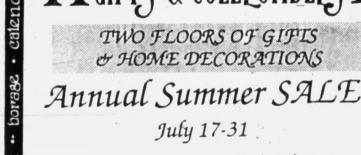
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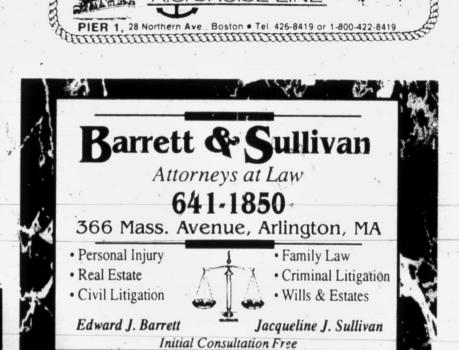
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## **ARLINGTON NEWS**

# **Arlington Food Co-op** faces challenges

By E.H. Stockstill ADVOCATE STAFF WRITER

Local organic grocers at the Arlington Food Co-op, hurt by a persistent recession over the last six months, have responded to shrinking sales by hiking food prices and lowering co-operative worker discounts.

But, according to officials with the 16-year-old health food market, these changes are only part of a larger long-range plan to boost store sales through beautification and improved store conditions, changes in merchandising and marketing, and, eventually, a move above ground

# Town moves to 7th

CONGRESS, From page 1A

gerrymandered

"I think what the good news is that this map represents competition, Cellucci said. "There's going to be healthy competition between the Democratic Party and the Republican Party for seats in the Congress.'

Here is a district-by-district description of the compromise redistricting plan agreed to by Democratic legislative leaders and the Weld administration, compiled by AP:

1st Congressional District

Includes the town of Amherst, home of incumbent U.S. Rep. John Olver, D-Mass., but does not include Northampton and Hadley. The district would include Fitchburg and Leominster in the East. Includes all the cities and towns in the counties of Berkshire and Franklin.

**2nd Congressional District** 

Currently represented by incumbent U.S. Rep. Richard Neal, D-Mass., of Springfield. Includes Springfield and Chicopee, Northampton, Hadley and South Hadley. Stretches North to Ware, Warren and Spencer, and East to Bellingham.

**3rd Congressional District** 

Includes Worcester, home of incumbent U.S. Rep. Joseph Early, D-Mass. Stretches diagonally from the Central Massachusetts towns of Princeton and Rutland down to the seaside communities of Swansea, Westport and Dartmouth and part of Fall

4th Congressional District

The district, which includes U.S. Rep. Barney Frank's home town of Newton, snakes South through Wellesley and Norfolk to embrace part of Fall River, then cuts across several coastal communities including New Bedford and back north to Marlborough, Bridgewater and Pembroke.

**5th Congressional District** 

The "Merrimack Valley" district Gov. William F. Weld pushed for would include Lowell, Lawrence and Methuen, but does not include communities in the greater Lawrence area. It includes Concord, the home if incumbent U.S. Rep. Chester Atkins,

**6th Congressional District** 

Includes Peabody, home of U.S. Rep. Nicholas Mavroules, D-Mass., and North Shore coastal communities from Saugus and Lynn up through Gloucester and Newbury. Also includes Haverhill, and stretches West to Bedford.

7th Congressional District

Stretches from Revere west to Natick and Framingham. Arlington's new district includes Malden, the home town of U.S. Rep. Edward Markey, D-Mass., and Weston, Waltham, Lexington, Medford, Winchester, Melrose, Stoneham, Wakefield, Woburn, half of Reading and half of Lincoln. (Markey lost Burlington, Billerica, Wilmington, Tewksbury, and half of Reading.)

8th Congressional District

Home to incumbent U.S. Rep. Joseph Kennedy, D-Mass., with a minority population of 38.7 percent. Apart from Belmont, it includes part of Boston and the cities of Cambridge, Somerville and Chelsea. (Kennedy will lose Arlington.)

9th Congressional District

The district created to protect U.S. Rep. Joseph Moakley, D-Mass. Includes parts of Boston and Brockton. Also includes Braintree and Walpole, and stretches South to Taunton.

10th Congressional District

Home of incumbent U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds, D-Mass. Includes Cape Cod and the islands, then stretches through Plymouth, hugging the South Shore and including Weymouth and Quincy.



ADVOCATE FILE PHOTO

Arlington's Food Co-op will be choosing a new manager and is dealing with the tough economy.

from its present basement location at Medford Street.

Board of Directors Chairman Alan Jones said, however, the best way to achieve such goals in the immediate future is simply to continue to serve the town's health food needs.

'It's a community resource," Jones said. "We're not trying to be Stop & Shop. We're trying to be what the community wants us to be."

As of July 1, discounts for the health food grocery store's nonworking members dropped from 3 to 2 percent; while discounts for members working at least 21/2 hours a month have gone down from 13 to 10

In addition, the store has undergone two changes of management recently. Lauren Eyvian de Rivaud has resigned as general manager, having worked since longtime head Beth Imhoff's departure last December. According to acting General Manager Lauren Tibbets, who has announced her intention to resign as bookkeeper after three years, it is a time of "transition" for the store.

Both jobs have been advertised in The Boston Globe and the co-op's newsletter, and a number of people have been interviewed for the positions, Jones said

Jones said de Rivaud, hired last year after Imhoff left, came on board to shore up store operations and help with a smooth transition

from the basement location to a potential West Somerville site. He credited de Rivaud, along with Tibbets, for straightening up the store's operations and implementing a new com-

ystem purchased last fall. He added that since the Somerville scenario has been "95 percent"

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abandoned, "[de Rivaud's] job is pretty much finished.

'She accomplished what needed to be done in a business sense," said Jones. "She tightened [things]

According to Jones, the co-op has managed to maintain last year's profitability, but he said the store's overall sales volume has diminished because of tight economic times.

'We looked at the bottom line and we hadn't been growing as much as we wanted to," said Jones. "Our growth has stopped because of people being more cost conscious.

Sales growth has dropped from around 20 percent last year to around 5 percent this year, Jones said.

Tibbets said recently "the AFC is not in deep trouble," but she admitted drops in sales "are indicators that we cannot afford to ignore. If we respond now, we can look forward to many more years of successful operation.

Jones said moving above ground could increase store sales by as much as three times what they are now, but he said such a move will likely not happen for at least three

In the meantime, more money and time have been spent in sprucing up the existing store. He also said additional space will be obtained to create a community room in the basement store for members and other patrons.

Improved communications with the town and surrounding communities is another key to the store's success, Jones said.

"It's surprising the number of peodrive right passed us to the Bread and Circus in Cambridge," he said.

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Local Programming schedule on Arlington Community Television ACTV (Channel 3)

Thursday, July 16 6 a.m. Continental Aerobics 9 a.m. Continental Aerobics 5 p.m. Video Shortcut

5:30 p.m. Another Comedy Show 6 p.m. Community TV Update. 6:30 p.m. Sports Profiles 7 p.m. Town Hall Topics (LIVE) Call in

7:30 p.m. Our Women Talk 8 p.m. The Missing Tooth 8:30 p.m. Beyond the Classroom 9 p.m. Extreme Freestyle

9:30 p.m. Runner's Journal 10 p.m. Continental Aerobics IT p.m. In the Space Between Us 11:30 p.m. Fidelity House Gymnastics

(Beginners under 8) Friday, July 17 6 a.m. Continental Aerobics 9 a.m. Continental Aerobics

5 p.m. Film Show 5:30 p.m. Selectmen's Update 6 p.m. Companion Animal Medicine 6:30 p.m. Extreme Freestyle

7 p.m. Video Fanzine 8 p.m. Arlington Ear 8:30 p.m. Fidelity House Gymnastics (Begin-

10 p.m. Film Show 10:30 p.m. Selectmen's Update

11 p.m. Video Fanzine 12 a.m. Arlington Ear Saturday, July 18 9:30 a.m. The Front Page 10:30 a.m. The Missing Tooth

11 a.m. Talking Sports 12 p.m. Extreme Freestyle 12:30 p.m. Arlington Philharmonic 5 p.m. Forever Baseball 5:30 p.m. Runner's Journal 6 p.m. Living Unlimited 7 p.m. Another Comedy Show 7:30 p.m. Ran's World of Watercolor

8 p.m. Talking Sports 9 p.m. Forever Baseball 10 p,m. Living Unlimited 11 p.m. Another Comedy Show



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1:30 p.m. Ran's World of Watercolor 12 a.m. Arlington Philharmonic

Sunday, July 19 10 a.m. Live from the Pleasant St. Church 11:30 a.m. Forever Baseball 12 p.m. Runner's Journal

12:30 p.m. Living Unlimited 1:30 p.m. Another Comedy Show 2 p.m. Ran's World of Watercolor 2:30 p.m. Talking Sports

5 p.m. Forever Baseball 5:30 p.m. Runner's Journal 6 p.m. Living Unlimited 7 p.m. Another Comedy Show

7:30 p.m. Ran's World of Watercolor 8 p.m. Talking Sports 9 p.m. Arlington Philharmonic Monday, July 20 7 a.m. Arlington Philharmonic

5 p.m. Another Cornedy Show 5:30 p.m. Fidelity House Gymnastics (Grades 2 and up) 7 p.m. Community TV Update

7:30 p.m. Shake, Rattle and Roll 8 p.m. RnRTV 8:30 p.m. Video Shortcuts 9 p.m. Our Women Talk 9:30 p.m. Runner's Journal 10 p.m. Continental Aerobics 11 p.m. Sports Profile

11:30 p.m. Selectmen's Update 12 a.m. Arlington Ear Tuesday, July 21 6 a.m. Continental Aerobics

7 a.m. Arlington Ear

7 a.m. Arlington Ear

9 a.m. Continental Aerobics 5 p.m. Forever Baseball 5:30 p.m. Ready, Willing, Enable 6 p.m. Our Women Talk 6:30 p.m. Golden Opportunity 7 p.m. DAS Battleship Masters.

8 p.m. The Missing Tooth 8:30 p.m. Companion Animal Medicine 10 p.m. Continental Aerobics

11 p.m. Talking Sports 12 a.m. Arlington Ear Wednesday, July 22 6 a.m. Continental Aerobics

9 a.m. Continental Aerobics 5 p.m. Sports Profiles 5:30 p.m. Cable Cuisine 6:30 p.m. Quilt With Marnie 7 p.m. Victor Cockburn Concert at Har dy School

8:30 p.m. Golden Opportunities 9 p.m. In the Space Between Us 10 p.m. Continental Aerobics 11 p.m. The Front Page

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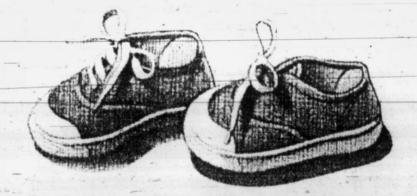
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**POLICE** Log

# **ARRESTS**

A 33-year-old Somerville man was arrested Friday at 11:30-p.m. and charged with driving with a suspended license, police said.

Police arrested the man, a resident of South Street in Somerville, at the corner of Mass. Avenue and Lake Street on July 10 and charged him with operating an automobile with a suspended license. He was also charged with driving an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle and driving a vehicle with unapproved license plates

A 21-year-old Somerville man was arrested Friday at 11:40 p.m., charged with public drunkenness and taken into protective custody, police said. He was later released.

Police said they arrested the man on July 10 at the entrance of the Fox library in East Arlington.

■ A 44-year-old Palmer Street man was arrested Saturday, July 11 at 2:28 p.m. and charged with driving

after revocation of a license, police

 On July 11, according to police, the man was arrested on Coral Street for driving his 1975 Chevrolet convertible without a valid driver's license.

■ A 27-year-old Rhode Island man was arrested Saturday, July 11 at 10:35 p.m. and charged with driving without a license, according to police.

■ A 25-year-old Watertown man was arrested Saturday, July 11 at 1:10 a.m. and charged with violation of a restraining order, police said. According to police, the man, a resident of Kimball Avenue, Watertown, was also charged with disturbing the peace at the home of his former girlfriend on Maple Street in Watertown.

was arrested Thursday at 9 p.m. and charged with operating a vehicle with a suspended license, police said. The man, who lives in Niantic, Conn., was arrested July 9 on Mass. Avenue after he pulled out of a gas station at 1028 Mass. Avenue. Police said they were uncertain why the man was in Arlington at the time.

■ A 33-year-old Connecticut man

■ A 28-year-old Grantwood Road man was arrested Thursday at 9:30 p.m. and charged with violating a restraining order, police said. Police said he was arrested after slapping the face of his sister during an argument the two were having.

■ A 32-year-old Weymouth man was arrested Thursday and charged with default of a warrant, police said. The man, a resident of Roberts Drive, Weymouth, was arrested Thursday. July 9 at 111 Mass. Ave. and charged with failing to appear in Wareham District Court on charges of larceny, according to police.

■ A 32-year-old Arlington woman was arrested Thursday, July 9 at 6:15 p.m. and charged with violation of a restraining order obtained by her husband, police said. According to police, the woman arrived at her 35-year-old husband's apartment, began to argue, then threw furniture at him and shoved and kicked him. The couple has been separated for some time, police said. According to police, the woman's husband filed for the restraining order because of several similar incidents.

Woman has purse stolen; youths apprehended

An 83-year-old Drake Village woman had her purse, and \$58 in cash, stolen Wednesday, July 10 at 1:11 p.m. by two youths who were later caught and charged with unarmed robbery, police said.

Police said that a 14-year-old Somerville youth and a 14-year-old Lynn youth were both apprehended and charged with robbing the woman as she was walking near the intersection of Drake Road and the bicycle path. The youths will both be charged in juvenile court, police said.

The purse was recovered but no money was found, according to police.

A 43-year-old Cleveland Street man was arrested Tuesday and charged with assault and battery, police said. Police arrested the man on July 7 after he struck his wife, 32, at their home. Police said the woman has since filed for a restraining order against him.

■ A 76-year-old Arlington woman was arrested Thursday, July 7 and charged with violations of the state housing codes, police said. The woman, a resident of Tomahawk Road, was arrested July 9 on a warrant from the Boston Housing Court for her failure to comply with housing regulations. Police were uncertain as to the nature of the housing regulations and the problems with Casullo's residence.

A 32-year-old man was arrested at Reservoir Beach Tuesday, July 7 at 2:15 p.m., charged with public drunkenness and taken into protective custody, police said. According to police, the man had no address and described himself as a "knight of the road." He was later released, according to police.

■ A 24-year-old Winchester man was arrested Monday, July 6 at 10:31 p.m. and charged with speeding and operating a motor vehicle without a

■ Two bicycles were reported stolen

LARCENIES &

**BREAK-INS** 

# license, police said.

cock Street on Friday, July 10 at 8:33 A vehicle was reported stolen at Mystic Street on Saturday, July 11 at

8:28 a.m.

10:58 p.m. ■ A larceny was reported at Brattle Court on Saturday, July 11 at 11:45

a.m. Tuesday, July 7, police said. The

bicycles, one a 10-speed and the other

a 26-inch vehicle with black canvas

bag, were valued at more than \$500.

■ In an unrelated incident, another

bicycle valued at \$175 was reported

stolen at the Boys Club on Pond Lane

■ In a third incident, a bicycle was

reported stolen Monday, July 13, 3:57

A larceny was reported on Lake

Street on Monday, July 6 at 5:56 p.m.

A larceny was reported at Mass.

Avenue on Tuesday, July 7 at 6:40

■ A larceny was reported at Broad-

way on Tuesday, July 7 at 9:48 a.m.

■ A larceny was reported at Meno-

tomy Road on Wednesday, July 8 at

■ A larceny was reported at Park

Street on Wednesday, July 8 at 6:24

A larceny was reported at Han-

at 4:55 p.m. Tuesday, July 7.

p.m. on Egerton Road.

■ A larceny was reported at Mountain Avenue on Sunday, July 12 at 6:56 a.m.

A larceny was reported at Gloucester Street on Sunday, July 12 at 2:27 p.m. ■ A larceny was reported in the rear

parking lot at Mass. Avenue Sunday, July 12 at 5:34 p.m.

a Gloucester Street residence between 9 p.m. Monday, July 6 and 6:30 POLICE, See page 13A

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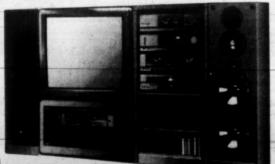
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# **INSIDE ARLINGTON**

# Stockstill joins Advocate staff



**Eugene Stockstill** 

Eugene Stockstill has been named the new assistant editor of The Arlington Advocate.

He replaces R. Scott Raynovich, who left last month after nealry two years with The Advocate to finish his novel and pursue other endeavors.

Stockstill, who received his master's degree in journalism from Northeastern University in June, has studied journalism and worked at a number of different newspapers in the Boston area on a part-time basis for the past two years since coming to Massachusetts.

Born in Raleigh, N.C., and raised in Jackson, Miss., Stockstill graduated from Mississippi College in 1989 with a bachelor's degree in English. He now lives in Boston.

Stockstill, who has worked at other Harte-Hanks newspaper, will be covering Arlington and working with the community while serving as assistant editor.

"It's a pleasure to be in Arlington," said Stockstill. "I'm looking forward to working here and getting to know the community.'

William Finucane, Harte-Hanks executive editor, said: "We welcome Gene on board. We believe he can continue the tradition of past assistant editors in offering quality, enjoyable, and informative coverage of the Arlington community.'

## Looking for your refund?

Wondering where your refund is? Has it been eight weeks since you filed your return or four weeks if it was filed electronically?

If you answered yes to either of these questions, you can call IRS' Tele-Tax System (Automated Refund Information) at 800-829-4477. To get the status of your refund, have your social security number, filing status and exact amount of refund ready. The Tele-Tax system is updated weekly.

Refund delays may be caused by a variety of reasons. The most common is the social security number and name mismatch. The last name and the social security number of the taxpayer must be the same as on last year's return or the return will be delayed a minimum of one week for rematching.

If your return required rematching, you will be sent a notice of verification which must be filled out and returned to the service center before the refund can be released. Once the information is received, the IRS will process it and mail your check.

#### **Shelter** needs supplies

As the summer heat soars, so do the seasonal needs at The Support Committee For Battered Women.

The women and children staying at the emergency shelter could have a cooler and safer summer with donations of the following items: fans, double stroller, new summer clothing (including new underwear and infant to extra large sizes, a children's plastic picnic table, electric hedge clippers, weed-wacker, T-passes, a play sprinkler, sunscreen and barbecue grill.

In an effort to become a more environmentally sound home, The Support Committee is accepting donations of the following "green" cleaning supplies: Borax, baking soda, vinegar, lemon oil, and soap flakes.

For more information or to schedule a drop-off of donations, call The Support Committee's outreach office at 891-0724. The Support Committee's 24-hour emergency hotline can be reached at 899-8676.

The Donations can be brought to 905 Main St., Waltham, weekdays.



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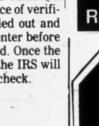
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# **SENIOR NEWS**

#### **Council on Aging News**

Health counseling schedule

Thursday, July 16, 1 to 2:30 p.m., COA; Thursday, July 23, 1 to 2:30 p.m., COA; Thursday, July 30, 1 to 2:30 p.m. COA.

#### Health benefits counselors

COA health benefits counselors will be at the Council on Aging on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to noon, to provide free confi-dential assistance with questions on Medicare, MEDEX, Health Maintenance Organizations, insurance claims forms, prescription drugs, etc. To make an appointment, call-646-1000, ext. 4720. If you, for any reason, are unable to keep your appointment with SHINE, a call letting us know would be appreciated.

#### Eating together meal site

Senior Center Luncheon Site, 27 Maple St. Call Site Manager Marge Scott, 646-1000, ext. 4747, for reservations and transportation. Drake Village site, Hauser Bldg., 37 Drake Village Road. Call Site Manager Marilyn Bruno, 648-7500, for reservations and transportation. Reservations are necessary. Menus may change without notice. Monday, July 20, Shepherd's pie; Tuesday, July 21, liver and onions; Wednesday, July 22, roast pork; Thursday, July 23, bbq chicken; Friday, July 24, meatball sub.

#### Sandwich Menu for July

Monday, July 20: Beef barley soup, meatloaf, macaroni salad, whole wheat bread, chocolate pudding.

Monday, July 27: Split pea soup,

chicken salad, carrot raisin salad, whole wheat bread and chilled fruit.

#### **Project Hire**

If you are in need of a companion, homemaker or health aide, and you live in Arlington or Lexington, contact June Brooks, Project Hire/COA at 646-1000, ext. 4720, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 27 Maple St., Arlington, MA 02174.

#### Social service notes

If certain personal problems have you or a member of your family troubled, don't keep them to yourself. Our outreach worker, Diane Tainter, a licensed social worker, can help you with short-term counseling, nursing and retirement homes, emotional dysfunction and the like. For more information, call Diane Tainter, at 646-1000, ext. 4720.

#### Senior Citizens' **Law Project**

The Senior Citizens' Law Project of Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services Inc. provides legal assistance to eligible Arlington seniors at no charge. Legal assistance is available in the following areas, among others: Social Security, SSI, Medicaid, Medicare, evictions and nursing home care. Please call our intake line: 646-1000, ext. 4720 or ext. 4731. You can also meet with our intake worker, Myrtle Joy, at the Arlington Council on Aging.

#### **COA Senior shuttle van**

Parking at the Arlington Multipurpose Senior Center is difficult. In order to improve access to the center, the Arlington Council on Aging will run a shuttle van to pick up Arlington seniors from their private homes, elderly housing and municipal parking lots. This is specifically for coming to activities and programs at the Arlington Senior Center.

Time: Pick up van will start running at 9:45 and at 10:45 a.m.

Departure - Van from Arlington Senior Center on return trips will be at 1 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Extra - On Wednesdays when "Bingo" is played, a van will leave the Arlington Senior Center at approximately 3:20 p.m.

Routes - Two COA vans will be in

Route 1 - Arlington Heights - will start at Drake Village then to private residents and stop at Cusack Terrace before returning to the Center.

Route 2 - East Arlington - will pick up private residents and then to Chestnut Manor, Municipal Parking Lots, Winslow Towers and Mill Street before returning to the Center:

Fee: 50 cents for one-way trip; 75 cents for round trip. For same-day service, seniors must call 646-1000, ext. 4720, between 7:30 and 9:30 a.m. for approximate pickup time.

#### Dial-a-Ride

Dial-a-Ride cards are available at the COA between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

#### Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed for Meals-On-Wheels delivery one hour per day, per week or per month. To set up a time to fit into your busy schedule, call the Council on Aging at 646-1000, ext. 4720. Thanks for your

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Rep. Jim Marzilli will be at the Council on Aging from 9 to 11 a.m. on Monday, July 20 to answer questions, share your thoughts and opinions, or just to say hello.

#### Friendly visitors

The COA is currently recruiting for the Friendly Visitor Program. If you would like to spend an hour or so a week with an Arlington elder, sharing your time and love, call Lynne McCluskey at 646-1000, ext. 4720.

The Links Program has been funded by W.R. Grace to "link" 7th and 8th grade students with elders needing yard cleanup, raking leaves, pet care, etc. Dennis Mercurio is the school/student coordinator. All arrangements for doing and monitoring work will be made between seniors, students and their parents. Interested seniors should call June Brooks, Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at 646-1000 ext.

#### Kennedy's office

A representative from the office of Joseph Kennedy will be at the Council on Aging on Tuesday, July 28, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Drop by to ask questions; share your thoughts and opinions or just drop by to say 'hi'.

#### **Arlington Seniors Association**

#### **Weekly programs**

Sponsored by the Arlington Seniors Association, these programs are offered every week at the Senior Center. To join a class or group, call 646-1000, ext. 4740 or 4743.

Monday, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., exercise; 1 to 4 p.m. contract bridge.

Tuesday, 10 a.m. to noon, writers workshop; 10 to 11:15 a.m., beginning line dance with Charlie Kay.

Wednesday, 10 a.m. to noon, informal knitting; 1 to 4 p.m., contract bridge; 1 to 3 p.m., beano; 1 to 3 p.m., pool lessons. Thursday, 9 to 11 a.m., square dance lessons; 10 a.m. to noon, senior forum; 1:15 to 2:30 p.m., line dance class.

Friday, 9 to 10:30 a.m., yoga; 1 to 4 p.m., contract bridge or other games.

#### Summer exercise class

In this class we will focus on strengthening, stretching and loosening our muscles, increasing overall flexibility and postural awareness, decreasing both physical and mental stress and most important, have a lot of fun doing it on Wednesdays, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

SENIORS, See page 13A

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# **ARLINGTON NEWS**



#### Parents sought for assessment study

The Town Meeting recently passed a warrant article establishing a School Facility Assessment committee which is charged with the responsibility of reporting to the 1993 Annual Town Meeting on the school building needs of the town and their effect on the fiscal and economic resources of

Any parent of a child in the Arlington Public Schools who is interested in serving on this committee should contact the office of the School Committee at 869 Mass. Ave., Arlington in writing prior to July 20 at 4 p.m. Three parents will be designated by the School Committee to serve on this committee

#### Bilafer named to association board

The Government Finance Officers Association announced the appointment of John J. Bilafer, town treasurer/collector of taxes, town of Arlington, to its executive board. Bilafer was appointed by his peers because of his outstanding leadership ability and his stature as a public finance professional. He will serve a

three-year term which will begin June 23.

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) represents 12,500 state and local government finance officials and other finance professionals. The executive board is the governing body of the association and consists of 18 state and local government officials from the United States and Canada. The association esta-blishes professional policies and practices for government finance professionals through research, training, technical assistance, publications, an annual conference and Washington, D.C. representation efforts. GFOA is headquartered in Chicago and also maintains a Washington, D.C. office.

#### **Precinct 12** holds meeting

Attention all Precinct 12 residents. Plan to attend our next meeting on July 19 at 3 p.m. The meeting is hosted by TMM Chuck Pappus at his home at 20 Grand View Road. Precinct business, a special guest and a pot luck barbecue highlight the

#### **Board approves** business licenses

The Board of Selectmen approved three business licenses Monday subject to conditions listed by various town inspecting and reviewing authorities.

The board approved a commen victualler's license for a new chinese food restaurant, China Cafe, to be located at 882A Mass. Ave. The new restaurant will be located next to Cousin's Bakery, in the site of a former pizza restaurant.

The board also approved a Class II Use Car Auto Dealer's License for Paul D. Marjanian for his Citgo Station at 19 Park Ave. Before Marjanian's license is final, however, he must receive approval for his project from the Zoning Board of Appeals

The Casa Cusina, now of Broadway, received approval from the Board of Selectmen Monday to move to a new location at 102 Summer St. The board was told the business is moving to be closer to the Minuteman bicycle trail because they believe it will be better for business

#### **Board** makes Commission appointment

Brian R. Greeley, of Ely Road, was appointed to the Conservation Commission. He term will run through

Greeley, public relations director for the Massachusetts Organization of State Engineers and Scientists, replaces commission member Bruce Wheltle, who resigned.

After meeting with members of the Board of Selectmen Monday, the board members present unanimously approved Greeley's appointment. Greeley's brother, Kevin Greeley, is a member of the Board of Selectmen, who did not vote. Selectman Charles Lyons was not present for the voting.

In a related matter, the board received notice from Town Manager Donald R. Marquis the following appointments will expire within 90 days: Donald Reenstierna, Trust Fund, Oct. 1; Virginia Gregory, Personnel Board, Oct. 15; and Judith Hodges and Geraldine Tremblay, Conservation Commission, Oct. 20.

Summer Sweet, Yellow

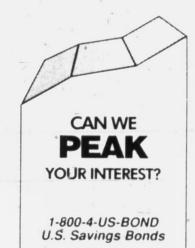
Corn on the Cob

#### **Board makes** appointment to Vision 2020

The Board of Selectmen designated its chairman and then named Sheri A. Baron as members of the Vision 2020 standing committee, recently established by the Town Meeting.

Baron, a resident of Columbia Road, is a Town Meeting member.

The board's vote was 4-1, with Selectman Frank Hurd voting against the nomination. Hurd said at the end of the meeting his vote was made because there were two other candidates who had submitted their names for consideration and the board had no public discussion of the



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Deaconess Hospital Center for the Study of Nutrition Medicine Dr. George L. Blackburn, MD, PhD (617) 735-0724

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The Center for Study of Nutrition Medicine at the New England Deaconess Hospital seeks healthy male and female volunteers, ages 18-65 who are 50-100 pounds overweight to participate in a 34-week outpatient weight control with drug therapy research study. The drug may help you to follow a weight loss program. The study includes medical monitoring, blood and urine tests, and an individualized diet, exercise and behavior modification program. If eligible, you will be randomly assigned to the research study drug or a placebo. Call (617) 735-0724 between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm for more information.



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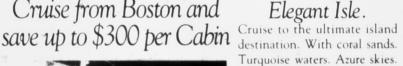
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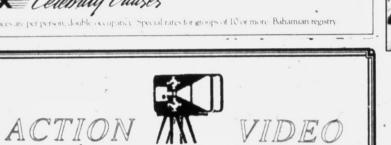
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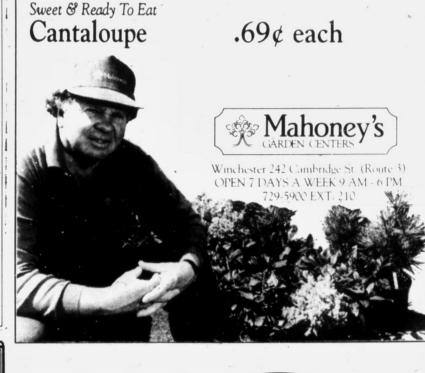
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#### **Editorial**

# Rates addressed

ater rates are finally being addressed by the Board of Selectmen and the plan presented to the board makes good sense.

The plan encourages water conservation and provides help for those residents who do not use a lot of water. The minimum has been reduced to cover the local costs and will mean an immediate reduction in numerous residents bills.

This new two-tiered system should be voted and enacted by the Board of Selectmen. It makes sense.

However, the plan does not address the longterm problem of water and sewer rate relief for the region.

Arlington's costs for water and sewer service are expected to increase at a rate of 20 percent a year until the Boston Harbor cleanup project is completed.— This year the water and sewer rates will increase about

19 percent. That number is down from a projected 35 percent.

The state and federal governments will have to relook at

how cleanup projects are funding and some true relief should be offered to the ratepayers.

Locally, however, the new plan is a good step to below the new plan

Locally, however, the new plan is a good step to help out those who cannot afford to pay for more than their share.



## **Beacon Hill Roll Call**



Sen. Havern



Rep. Marzilli



Rep. Glbson

**THE HOUSE AND SENATE** — Beacon Hill Roll Call records local senators' votes on four roll calls and local representatives' votes on five roll calls from the week of July 6 to July 10. Roll calls from late Friday sessions will be included in next week's report.

**REDISTRICTING (H 5959)** — House 96-58, Senate 24-13, approved and Governor Weld signed the new congressional redistricting plan reducing the state's delegation from 11 to 10.

The plan makes major changes and places one incumbent in each district while eliminating the Eleventh District represented by retiring Congressman Brian Donnelly. It also creates a Merrimack Valley district and establishes a new Eighth District comprised of 38 percent minority voters.

Supporters acknowledged there were major problems with the plan but noted it is a compromise necessary to meet deadlines and prevent the federal courts from establishing the districts.

Opponents objected to many provisions and argued the plan will have a devastating effect on many cities and towns and is simply unfair.

(A "yes" vote is for the plan. A "no" vote is against 1t.)

Rep. Mary Jane Gibson voted no. Rep. Jim Marzilli voted no. Sen. Robert Havern voted yes.

**NEW CANDIDATES (H5959)** — House 80-72, rejected an amendment giving additional candidates 14 days to get the 2,000 signatures necessary to run for one of the congressional seats.

Amendment supporters said this will open up the process to new candidates and give voters more choices.

Opponents said candidates have had ample opportunity to enter the race

and argued the amendment will confuse and delay the process.

(A "yes" vote is for the 14-day amendment. A "no" vote is against it.)

Gibson voted no.

Marzilli voted no.

ROLLCALL, See page 9A

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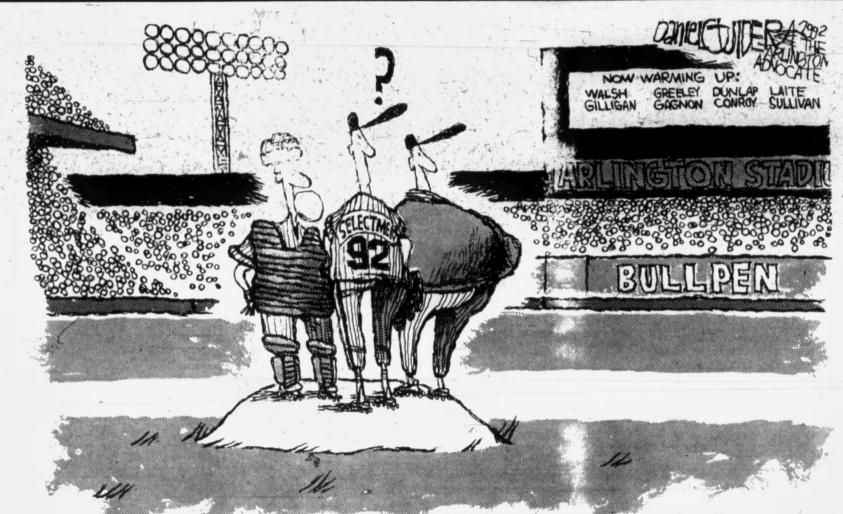
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# News I tem: SELECTMEN CONSIDER REPLACEMENT FOR RETIRING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FRED PITCHER

## **Guest columns**

# Selectmen: Time to Downsize!

By Bruce Wheltle

The Advocate's MAT is entitled to some good clean fun in speculating on whom the next executive secretary to the Board of Selectmen might be (July 9). However, your editorial (July 2) actually hit the bull's eye in highlighting the redundancy than an "honest, unpolitical look at how our leading board runs it own affairs" would reveal about that job position.

In my opinion we not only don't need the position of executive secretary in town government, we would be better off without it. The main work of the office is administrative and clerical. And, surprise we already have a capable administrative office centered on the town manager's office, and clerk's office. The position of executive secretary should be abolished.

A look at the budgets shows the administrative duplication. The selectmen's office is primarily a niche where expenses are squirreled for work actually supervised and performed elsewhere. For example, its budget includes: "election and town meeting" expenses: \$112,139; "audit" expenses: \$32,500; "annual report" expenses: \$8,500, and so on. Yet the warrant-related, administrative and clerical responsibilities for the accomplishment of these things lie elsewhere with the clerk, manager, counsel, planning director, com-

ptroller, Finance Committee, moderator and others, all of them but the Fincom and moderator full-time professionals.

Four of the five selectmen receive \$3,000 each; the chair receives \$3,500, for a selectmen's stipend which totals \$15,500. Yet the five preside over an office with a total budget of \$298,232 as follows: \$127,260 for personal services (salary of \$39,920 for executive secretary, exclusive of "longevity" pay, three secretarial employees that total \$71,840 and the selectmen's stipend of \$15,500 plus a whopping \$167,972 in expenses.

By contrast, compare this both with the manager's office budget, which totals \$204,266 and with the clerk's office budget, which totals \$139,173. These two offices, in reality, do most of the real work attributed to the selectmen's office other than their agenda and minutes. The manager's office budget includes \$196,266 for personal service (salary of \$87,325 - for the manager, and three others. an assistant, assistant-to, and secretary — that total \$108,941) plus \$8,000 in expenses. The clerk's office budget is \$119,273 for personal services (salary of \$41,766 for the clerk and four others that total \$77,507,) plus \$19,900 for expenses.

Thus the needed "honest, unpolitical" function of a selectmen's office executive secretary not already fulfilled elsewhere is that of a competent, fair, non-idealogical secretary

— somebody to prepare agenda, and to make minutes. Even this task has been simplified with the assistance of cablevision tapes. Above all, the job should not be that of a political Mr. Fixit at taxpayer's expense.

A look at the budget of the "imperial selectmancy" by this observer suggests that our taxpayer dollar value received from the selectmen is seriously out of whack. Of the three town hall office budgets discussed above, 46 percent of the total of \$641,671 is administered by the selectmen's office.

Moreover, the selectmen's office appears already to have a perfectly good secretary. If the executive secretary is replaced, it will be one more triumph of a political agenda and one more taxpayers' loss. It will telegraph that the real agenda in that hermetically sealed clubhouse is to find someone who plays the political game as it has been played in the past minutes that provide a revisionist history of actual statements, promises, and so on - anything but the cold "just quote 'em straight" truth. To report the full array of antics would cause the voters to throw out not just the job position of executive secretary, but several of the selectmen as well.

What other board regularly condones discussion of prohibited business in executive sessions? What other board tries to call a hallway

conference to flip-flop its position on precinct redistricting? Or condones a shredder in a municipal "office of the people"? Or faxed orders received by a private business run from town hall? To little avail, one brave selectman as chairman (Keyin Greeley) tried last year to get his colleagues to face up to a betrayal of the public trust.

I've got shocking news for the selectmen intoxicated with their own importance. It's a tough real world out here, and beyond an insider claque no one but the self-interested cares about the petty politics.

So members of the board, get real for once. Get a life. You made a big deal about saving an alleged \$8,000 per election by gerrymandering 21 precincts into 12 without benefit of even a word to the public, until Town Meeting members' outcry forced you to do a 180.

Here's a scheme to save five times that — downsize your office. Let the capable officers already doing the work pick up the budgeted expenses and the slack. Only five people in town will be upset.

(Bruce Wheltle, a Town Meeting member from Precinct 12 and a former member of the Conservation Commission, added: "The commission's budget has never been above \$10,000 a year and has a part-time administrator for seven members.")

# Local pols and TM members

#### By GERARD J. GAGNON SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

A good "Man About Town" column raises eyebrows, among other things. MAT's brief column on July 9 raised my consciousness about Town Meeting members and local politicians, or pols. MAT named a few people who might be candidates for the soon-to-be vacated position of Executive Secretary to the Board of Selectmen.

MAT noted that many of those who may be seeking the post with the Board of Selectmen are Town Meeting members. In the eyes of some townspeople, that makes them local pols. Are they? The Town Meeting, our local legislature, is a key part of Arlington's political/governmental structure. But does that make all Town Meeting members politicians? If we had open town meetings, would all the townspeople attending be called pols?

According to my "Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary," a politician is "often, one primarily interested in political offices or the profits from them as a source of private gain." That certainly does not apply to most Town Meeting members. I'm sure that the majority of the dedicated people who run for Town Meeting seats do not — or want to — view themselves as politicians. Let's face it, the word politician has acquired unsavory connotations in the minds of many citizens more in this era of "Read My Lips," Congressional check bouncing, Watergate, and all

the other "gates" that keep popping

Sadly, there are some good people who hesitate to run for Town Meeting seats — and other townwide offices — because they fear being labeled as

Running for Town Meeting is entry level election politics. It's also a great grass roots learning experience, although campaigning door-to-door, delivering election material is not high on my list of fun jobs. It takes time, energy and determination, and some money for printing and/or postage. While it's true that in some precincts candidates are elected with just a few write-in votes, most Town Meeting members win election the old fashioned way, by hard work.

Unfortunately, hard work does not guarantee victory, and many candidates have felt the sting of personal rejection at the polls. Private gain? Private pain is closer to the truth.

So, why all the work for a job that pays nothing, that consumes precious evening prime time, that not many people care about or even know much about, and then even be labeled by some as a local pol? Each candidate has his or her own answers. Among them are such laudable reasons as duty, civic responsibility, a desire to do something for the community and a deep, genuine concern about the direction and well-being of the town.

There's also no doubt that some people who run for election to Town Meeting are politically ambitious

and have their eyes set on higher offices. Others find Town Meeting a great game, a chance to dabble in politics without making a major commitment. These people can be called politicians, or local pols. But what do we call the people who run for office because no one else wants to represent their precinct? What do we call the busy homemakers and homeowners who seek election simply because they want to have a say on how taxes are being spent? Or how about those who work hard during the day and who sacrifice relaxation time at home to attend Town Meeting because they just want to do something for the community?

I've been a Town Meeting member for 20 years. I do not regard myself as a local pol, but simply as an ordinary citizen interested in the present and future of my community. I take pride

in being called simply a Town Meeting member. Over the years, I've met a lot of Town Meeting members and very few felt they were politicians. Generally speaking, we are just people with no political ambitions and who are content to use our talents and time for the good of all the citizens of Arlington, even if some call us local pols.

Town Meeting member is an honorable title. Each should take pride in his/her efforts, and encourage more townspeople to serve. Consider running for a seat at the town election next spring, particularly if your precinct is not fully represented. Become a Town Meeting member — an active, concerned, public-spirited citizen.

(Gerard J. Gagnon is a resident of Irving Street in Arlington, a Town Meeting member and presently chairman of Precinct 8.)

#### **Letters to the Editor**

# Staff efforts appreciated

To the editor:

After being admitted to Symmes Choate Hospital on the late night of June 29, I was treated not only with professional attention but also personal compassion by the emergency staff and the third floor day and night shift. I am hopeful that donations will

continue to Symmes, so it will be there when needed as it was for me. Margaret R. Greeley

# Residents show support for Carey

To the editor:

With regard to your article on Kathleen Carey's allegations against LETTERS, See page 9A

# COMMENT

#### **Letters to the Editor**

LETTERS, From page 8A

Edward Schofield, we are writing as friends of Kathy

She has been a close friend since she and our daughter first attended elementary school together more than 20 years ago.

During those years we have always admired Kathy for her integrity and concern for others.

We know her very well and we love her. We are sickened by what this man has [allegedly] done to her. We stand behind her all the way and we admire her for her courage. Dr. and Mrs. J. Walter Crowley

(Editor's Note: The word allegedly was added by The Advocate as there is case against Edward Schofield currently filed in civil court.)

#### **Eynon offers** more on issue

To the editor:

I am frankly encouraged that The Advocate is willing to print letters received which are not politically correct. I only wish other news media would be as balanced.

July 13, Newsweek has a blurb on the wanton shooting of baby seals on the Pacific coast. They begin, "You can't get much more depraved than this." Oh? How about injecting an unborn baby with a poisonous saline solution, and then ripping it out of it's "protected" inclosure piece by piece. It's done 1.6 million times a year now in America where "life, liberty...." is supposed to be a fundamental right. Now that's depravity.

If S.25/H.R. 25 passes, when mom goes into labor, the decision will be whether to head for the nearest abortuary, or to the hospital to have the child. Doesn't that strike you as rather strange? Sorry, but I have to stand by all I've written concerning the moral anarchy we in this country are experiencing. Only self control based on a proper world view can turn this mess around. Is it a mess? Well, for starters, July 7, USA Today had a poll showing 50.8 percent of all ninth graders have had sex in the past three months. Ask any doc what that does to a child physically, much less emotionally and spiritually.

I still say our teens are far more

capable of seeing through the fluff they're being dished out than us older opinionated folks are, and they see despair. How else can you explain the near total breakdown of discipline and propriety of our youth, both in and out of schools? The famous "If it feels good, do it," commercial sounds so great, but when you try it, more than lung cancer is the result. If the problem is not the loss. of moral absolute values, then, pray tell, what is it? Hillary Clinton's solution is Kiddie Lib. But just how lib can you get?

Mr. Becker questioned my conclusions. Statistics may be found in a book entitled, America. To Pray or Not To Pray, by Specialty Research Associates, Aledo, Texas. It covers the impact of the Supreme Court's 192 ruling to remove prayer from public schools. Sobering. I have summaries if anyone would like one. Separation of Church and State is valid, but we now have separation of God and public life. The First Amendment that was designed to insure freedom to worship, is now being used to insulate America from

worship. Our enlightened court has stated that it is unconstitutional for a fifth grader to keep a Bible on his desk. Humanist Manifesto II - certainly. Greek mythology - sure. But a Bible? No way. Might corrupt him into thinking there's something more to life than serving self.

In 1851, Daniel Webster said, "Let the religious element in man's nature be neglected, let him be influenced by no higher motives than low self interest, and subjected to no stronger restraint than the limits of civil authority, and he becomes the creature of selfish passion or blind fanaticism." We've come a long way, baby.

Tom Eynon

#### Club thanks newspaper

To the editor:

Arlington Chapter 1255 A.A.R.P. extends their thanks and appreciation for the excellent coverage of our monthly meetings:

Laura Pacifici



ROLLCALL, From page 8A

GRAD TAX AMENDMENT (H 4001) Constitutional Convention rejected 147-39 (House rejected 125-26, Senate rejected 22-13) an amendment to the proposed constitutional amendment establishing a graduated income tax in Massachusetts and requiring rates for taxpayers in higher income brackets to be higher than those taxpayers in lower income brackets.

The amendment would require the graduated rate of taxation to be the same regardless of the source of the income and allows the legislature to base the graduated tax on a percentage of an individual's federal tax

Amendment supporters said this will prohibit higher taxes on older citizens savings accounts. They argued it would also simplify the state tax and save money by reducing the workforce in the Department of Revenue.

Opponents said the amendment will delay or prevent passage of the proposal and said changes like this can be made through other legislation without jeopardizing the entire proposal.

(A "yes" vote is for the amendment requiring the rate to be the same regardless of source of income and basing the state tax on the federal. A "no" vote is against the amendment.)

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# New water system eyed

WATER, From page 1A

Selectman Charles Lyons, who also

sits on the MWRA board of directors, said the plan offers the low water

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## ee You're taking me where? 99

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#### Food safety tips for summer user some immediate relief. "One Summer is here again — the season

primary objective was that a number for barbecues, picnics and backyard of elderly people were getting rapped buffets. Though outdoor dining is a in the teeth because our minimum great way to socialize and enjoy the summer sun, many a good time has been spoiled by lack of attention to Lyons said the move to implement the most important aspect of meal the plan now was to ensure everyone planning - food safety. "Food poicould be informed of the plan. The soning peaks during the hot summer earliest any new plan could be implemonths making it well worth the effort to take extra precautions when Jack Bowler, the DPW office manpreparing foods to be served outager, said the plan would bring "subside," suggests Hillary Wright, R.D., stantial savings on the bills" of low spokesperson for the Massachusetts users of water. However, he added:

Dietetic Association (MDA).

Food poisoning, also known as foodborne illness, affects nearly one third of the United States population annually and appears to be on the rise. The term food poisoning refers to either infections caused by microorganisms in food (usually bacteria), or illness caused by toxic substances produced by these microorganisms. In most cases, symptoms are fairly mild and include abdominal cramps, headaches, vomiting and diarrhea. Due to the similarities of these complaints to other minor illnesses, a

case of food poisoning may mistakenly be written off as a short bout of the flu.

Fortunately, most of us have healthy immune systems that provide protection from bacteria in foods as well as other harmful organisms in our environment. But for the young, old, or otherwise ill, the outcome of a foodborne illness can be severe - even fatal.

Summertime is peak season for foodborne illness for several reasons. The climate is ideal for foodborne bacteria which grows best at temperatures between 40 to 140 degrees. Bacteria also needs moisture to flourish and summer weather is often humid. Under these conditions, along with an ample supply of nutrients from food, bacteria can double their numbers every 20 minutes! Foods commonly served outside, like meat, poultry and creamy salads, often start out with higher bacterial counts as well, making them potentially more hazardous. Considering the variety of foods that we are now preparing outdoors, awareness of food safety issues is now more necessary

As threatening as all this sounds, food poisoning can be easily avoided by paying a little extra attention to how you prepare and store foods. The following tips should help you keep your summer celebrations safe:

Maintain a clean food preparation area.

Avoid cross-contamination of bacteria by washing anything that touches raw meat or poultry with hot,

soapy water. Refrigerate raw meat and poultry

no longer than two days before cooking or freezing for later use.

Marinate meat and poultry in the refrigerator.

Cook food thoroughly. Meat and fish should be cooked to an internal temperature of 160 degrees, poultry to 180 degrees.

Partial cooking of food ahead of time is safe only if it goes immediately to the grill.

When transporting perishable food, either from the store or to a picnic site, keep it cold to minimize bacterial growth.

If a cooler is not available, safer foods include fruits and vegetables, hard cheeses (safe for up to two hours), canned or dried meats or fish, dry cereal, breads, crackers and peanut butter.

Never leave perishable food out for more than two hours, one hour if it's greater than 85 degrees outdoors Refrigerate leftovers promptly

For additional information on food safety and nutrition, contact the Massachusetts Dietetic Association at



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